

## The Commonwealth.

E. E. HILLIARD, - - - Editor.  
Published Every Thursday.

Entered at the Post-Office at Scotland Neck, N. C., as Second Class Matter.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1897.

SEVEN YEARS AGO.

It has been insisted that every part of the human body undergoes a complete change once in seven years. We think that it can be stated as a living, indisputable fact, that the government of North Carolina has been pretty thoroughly changed during the past seven years.

THE COMMONWEALTH would like for every man in the State to contrast the situation of public affairs in North Carolina, in every department, to-day with what it was seven years ago. It is too plain to need argument that there has been a change wrought.

Now, the question we should like to put to every honest man in the State, white and black, is: HOW MUCH HAS THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA BEEN IMPROVED WITHIN THE LAST SEVEN YEARS? Is the State as well able to pay the claims on its treasury as it was seven years ago?

Are the various counties in the State paying their own bills as promptly as they were seven years ago?

Are the State institutions considered by competent men of all parties in as good condition as they were seven years ago?

Is the free school machinery running as smoothly as it was seven years ago?

Is the State's good name as untarnished in the eyes of our sister States as it was seven years ago?

Is there that harmony of feeling amongst our people that began to be seriously disturbed about seven years ago?

Are there as few heinous crimes on record within the boundaries of our State as there were seven years ago?

Does it look now, under present circumstances, that North Carolina is as desirable a State to live in as it was seven years ago?

Would capitalists from other States as readily invest their money here as they would seven years ago?

Is there that confidence in North Carolina between man and man that prevailed seven years ago?

Are the best people of the State as well satisfied with the present conditions of affairs as they were seven years ago?

THE COMMONWEALTH would like to have some competent person answer these questions.

### JUDGE CLARK WRITES.

Judge Walter Clark has written a letter to the Charlotte Observer, proposing to furnish a list of his visitors and correspondents whenever the public interest demands it.

The letter was called forth by the fact that the Raleigh correspondent to that paper has repeatedly referred to visitors to Judge Clark's house, his correspondence, &c., and also by the inference that Judge Clark was the author of the letters sent to the two railroad commissioners by Gov. Russell, which letters are elsewhere printed on this page.

Senator Butler had visited Judge Clark's house which was referred to in the newspapers in a way that did not please Judge Clark, and he refers to that fact in his letter. He says that Senator Butler did call at his house one night recently, but not having been there before the Senator knocked at Mr. Ed. Chambers Smith's door by mistake. Mr. Smith had retired and the servant directed the Senator to Judge Clark's next door. The Judge in his letter says that Mr. Smith was out of his house partially dressed and stood behind the gate post until Senator Butler had passed. Judge Clark adds:

"As he had once gone to Washington to see the Senator and spent some days in some intimacy with him I suppose he wished to use the opportunity to renew the acquaintance, but I did not understand his haste in not dressing nor his getting behind the gate post, though this last may have been accidental. He reported the Senator's visit to my house, possibly without any evil intentions. It has been said that he got out of his bath upon a telephone message from a railroad official to watch if Senator Butler called at my house. But the character of both gentlemen satisfies me that this is hardly true."

The letter is rather a sly one and its tone intimates that Judge Clark thinks the privacy of his home should not be invaded by newspaper correspondents in order to find something to write about.

## EDUCATION AGAINST CRIME.

Recently we made some editorial observations concerning the increase in crime in the State, in the face of temperance societies, educational societies, Sunday-schools, and the like.

One of our readers, commenting on the situation, said that he has reached the conclusion that training the mind simply is not a means of improving society and citizenship. He said that the morals of the individual ought to be regarded along with the intellectual training.

And this is true. All of which opens the way to say that the teachers of the land have an opportunity for doing the State a service which they do not fully appreciate, perhaps. Next to the child's own parent, the teacher is the strongest force in shaping and molding character.

Train the mind without regard to morals and you make it possible for the individual thus trained to do a vast deal of harm, whereas in ignorance with the same moral obliquity he would not have so much bad power, for he would not so well know how to put into practice plans and purposes of evil.

We heard a strong man before a great audience say recently that he believed no one who is not a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ—a true Christian—ought to teach school. We do not feel prepared to say quite so much, but this declaration of a strong and vigorous thinker at least furnishes a subject for parents to think over.

And the conscientious teacher, who is not a Christian man or woman, thinking the matter carefully and realizing the possibility in his or her work to develop the child in moral training as well as intellectual; and remembering that the opportunity to do so leads at once to the responsibility and duty to do it, may find a new reason for the claim that Christianity and the principles of practical religion make upon his personal life.

After all, the biggest truth with reference to the best type of citizenship is wrapped up in that strong declaration of a leader of the people in the revolutionary period—"Righteousness alone can exalt us as a nation."

### BANKRUPT TREASURIES.

The News & Observer says that the State-Treasury is unable to pay the appropriations made by the last Legislature. It further says that all just claims against the State Treasury were promptly paid from the time the carpet baggers were driven from power until their return in 1894-96. It gives the following from the Greensboro Record which it heard a visitor to Eastern Carolina say a few days ago:

"I feel sorry for the people of that section. The other day I was in the largest store in a good sized town when a young lady came in and said to the proprietor of the store that she had \$86 dollars in county script in her hand, wanted to know if she could buy some things at the store. The man told her that he would sell her anything he had on as long time as she desired, but that he could not take the script, for not a dollar was in the treasury and he did not know when there would be. The lady said she was a teacher and had just been paid. She did not know what to do, for she said she had to live and look after her mother and she had no other means of support. I find in many of those eastern counties just such a state of affairs. Things are in control of the worst element of the politicians of the Republican faith—negroes and illiterate whites—who have brought things to a pretty pass."

### LET'S HAVE MORE OF THEM.

The Raleigh correspondent to the Wilmington Messenger says:

"It is claimed that the establishment of a dispensary at Fayetteville has greatly decreased drunkenness."

The friends of temperance ought to watch the workings of the dispensaries established in the State; and if they do decrease drunkenness, let us have more of them until we can get rid of the saloon altogether.

The Winston Sentinel makes a good suggestion in the following paragraph.

"Every true North Carolinian should constitute himself a committee of one to redeem North Carolina from the clutches of incompetent, and, in some instances, disgraceful rule. Efforts should be directed, first, towards legislative and county offices next year, and second, towards the State offices two years thereafter."

### A CURE FOR BILIOUS COLIC.

RESCUE, Scriven Co., Ga.—I have been subject to attacks of bilious colic for several years. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy is the only sure relief. It acts like a charm. One dose of it gives relief when all other remedies fail.—C. D. SHARP, For sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Scotland Neck, N. C.

## RUBBING RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS.

Governor Russell a few days ago notified Railroad Commissioners J. W. Wilson and S. Otho Wilson that they must answer by September 1st. certain questions as to whether or not they are disqualified to hold their positions as commissioners any longer. To Commissioner J. W. Wilson he wrote:

"It is alleged that you are the joint owner with Col. A. B. Andrews, the first Vice-President of the Southern Railroad, general political manager of the same for North Carolina, of a certain piece of hotel property, known as Round Knob, situated on the line of the said railroad; that said hotel property is worth little or nothing except as a hotel and that it is worthless for this purpose except when designated and patronized by the Southern Railroad as an eating-house for their passenger trains; that said hotel property has been unoccupied and unused for any purpose for several years past and has brought in no revenue to you as one of its owners; that it is impossible for you to use, rent or lease said property unless some understanding, agreement or contract could be made with the Southern Railroad Company to designate and patronize the said hotel as a railroad eating-house; that you and the other owner or owners of said hotel property have secured some agreement, understanding or contract, from the Southern Railroad Company to abandon other eating-houses and designate Round Knob as an eating-house; and that by virtue of said arrangements with said railroad that you have been able to lease said hotel property to S. Otho Wilson or to his mother through the said Wilson for profit."

It is further alleged that you have a son in the employment of the Southern Railroad Company at Morganton, that he was appointed to this place by the Southern Railroad Company at your request, and that he was appointed over others entitled to the place by promotion under the practice of the company, and that this was done for your accommodation and at your request."

To Commissioner S. Otho Wilson he wrote:

"It is alleged that a certain hotel property known as Round Knob is jointly owned by Maj. J. W. Wilson and Col. A. B. Andrews; said Wilson being one of the Railroad Commissioners and said Andrews being the first vice-president of the Southern Railroad Company and its active and general political manager for this State; that this property is of little or no value except for the hotel and worthless as a hotel except as a railroad eating house when so designated and patronized by the Southern Railroad Company; that this hotel has been closed for several years and has been producing no income for its owners; that you, either in your own name or in that of your mother entered into an agreement with Messrs. Wilson and Andrews for a lease of this property for the purpose of establishing a railroad eating house and upon obtaining such agreement, you moved into the hotel in the month of May or June of this year and have been continuously since operating the property for your own pecuniary profit under said agreement; that previous to your rental or lease of this property, the Railroad Company maintained an eating house at Hickory and another at Asheville for the accommodation of their various passenger trains going both west and east; that promptly upon your opening your hotel at Round Knob these eating houses were discontinued and both the western and eastern trains have been and still are stopped at your hotel for meals in pursuance of an understanding or agreement or contract between you of the one part and Messrs. Andrews and Wilson and the Southern Railroad Company of the other part."

The Governor says further in his letter that these allegations must be answered by September 1st.

He gives as his authority for his action in the matter the law passed by the Legislature, 1891, which says that the Governor must suspend any Railroad Commissioner who shall be holder of "any stock or bond of any railroad company; or be the agent or employee of any such company; or have any interest in any way in any such company; or in any case any one of them shall become disqualified to act."

He gives them a hearing when he could have suspended them without notice.

### BEWARE OF OINTMENTS FOR CATARRH THAT CONTAIN MERCURY.

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and is made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by Druggists, price 75c. per bottle.

## STATE GLEANINGS.

TO SPIN AT STATE FAIR.

News & Observer: Secretary Nichols tells us that Mrs. Smith, 72 years old, of Seven Springs, Wayne county, will be at the State Fair with a lot of flax of her own growing, old-fashion flax brakes and hackles and wheels and will exhibit every day, to all the young folks, exactly the way our grandmothers made cloth in the long ago. Mrs. Smith will be given one of the best positions on the grounds and her unique exhibit will be interesting to everybody.

### SAFE CRACKERS.

Mt. Olive correspondence to Wilmington Messenger August 28th: The safe at the Mt. Olive postoffice was blown open last night about 3 o'clock and \$300 in cash and \$50 in stamps taken. Several of our citizens heard the report and thought that it was a gun. Three strange men were here yesterday, who claimed they were Wheeler & Wilson sewing machine men. One of them sat around John W. McCullen's wood shop yesterday and was reading a newspaper, and at the same time watching around the shop. His shop was also broken open and a lot of tools taken. The postmaster A. A. Smith, colored, has telegraphed for the bloodhounds at Florence. At this writing they have not arrived.

### DROWNED IN TUCKASEEGEE.

Asheville, N. C., Aug. 30.—In Dillsboro, Jackson county, Saturday afternoon, the clothing of J. W. Grant, said to be a lawyer from Rudersden, S. C., were found on the bank of the Tuckasegee river. He had been fishing with Prof. Williams of that locality. The latter gave the alarm and had the river dragged for the body, but so far without avail.

Grant is said to have told several persons he could not go back to his home at Rudersden, S. C., where he has a brother, also a lawyer. In his pocket was found a letter addressed to J. H. Grant, his brother, at Flat Rock, N. C., stating he would leave for Flat Rock.

Grant is said to have remarked to several people at the hotel that he was going to drown himself. It is said he had been drinking Saturday afternoon, but was not badly intoxicated. He was apparently about 25 years old and had just returned from the Nashville Exposition.

### EVERY BUTLER PARDONED.

News & Observer: Every Butler, who is serving a life sentence in the penitentiary, for shooting his father from ambush, in Sampson county in 1890, was yesterday pardoned by Gov. Russell.

The case was a remarkable one. Butler's father was a drunkard, and of very violent passions when intoxicated. He had ceased to properly provide for his family and was very cruel to his wife and children. It was one morning after Butler had been beating young Butler and his mother that the boy seized a gun hid behind a chump of bushes and shot his father as he came along.

For the murder he was tried at the April term of Sampson court, in 1890, was found guilty and was sentenced to be hanged July 11th, 1890. On account of the boy's extreme youth and upon the petition of a great many citizens of Sampson county, the death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment by Governor Powle. Since then many attempts have been made to have him pardoned.

Young Butler is a cousin of Senator Marion Butler. He has been in the penitentiary seven years. He commenced a life time sentence when a mere boy fifteen years of age. The young man has escaped more than once, but otherwise his record is clean. On one occasion he made his escape and got as far as Kentucky, but a fellow prisoner who made the escape with him gave him away in order to get a reward of \$100 offered for the boy.

The following reasons are assigned by the Governor for granting the pardon:

"For six months I have resisted persistent appeals for the pardon of this boy. These appeals have come from the very best men and women from such societies as the Women's Christian Temperance Union, from the order of the King's Daughters of the town of Clinton, from numbers of the citizens of Sampson county. It is also urged by every member of the board of directors of the State' prison, representing all political parties. The boy was most brutally persecuted and tortured by a brutal father, as was also his mother. Considering the provocation, the helplessness of the mother and the children, the brutality of the father and his threats on the very day of the homicide to kill the boy and the mother, the case borders on what might be termed not in law, but in ultimate justice, as moral self defence. The law ought to have been strong enough to have looked up the father before his cruelties made the family desperate. I am credibly informed that the mother is a deserving woman and her distresses have been and are such as to appeal to every man who is capable of a generous emotion."

## LITTLETON NEWS.

SCHOOLS—WARREN UNION—BASEBALL—HOTELS, &c.

(Correspondence to THE COMMONWEALTH.)

LITTLETON, N. C., Aug. 30, 1897. Littleton High School opened last Tuesday, and up to date its numbers are in advance of last year. Your correspondent learns that a large accession is expected this week. Wednesday next is the time for the Female College to open its doors, when it is to be hoped a large number of girls and young ladies will grace its halls.

The Warren Union (Baptist) held its meetings at Macon last week, closing Sunday when a vast assembly was in attendance—twice as many as could be accommodated. Good speakers were in attendance, T. M. Pittman, J. H. Kerr, N. L. Shaw, T. J. Taylor, Dr. R. D. Fleming, A. G. Wilcox and others. On Sunday morning the Sunday schools were addressed by L. W. Bagley and A. G. Wilcox, and this was followed by an admirable dedicatory sermon by Dr. C. E. Taylor of Wake Forest. The pastor, Mr. Kendrick is to be congratulated for his success. He has completed his church at that point and put in a baptistry, has a good Sunday school and fine congregations.

On Monday of last week a game of baseball between the Littleton and Warrenton clubs was played at the latter town and resulted in an overwhelming defeat of the former. It is just to say that those who suffered defeat had no organized club, while the visitors had their forces in good trim.

Our hotels have done well this season especially the Panacea Hotel at the springs.

Mayor Falcon has not been out of his room in several days, we are sorry to learn.

Mr. J. H. Evans of Weldon we learn is to open business here in a short time. Rev. J. T. Edmondson is to take his family on a visit to Baltimore next week where they will remain for some time.

Several of our young men have gone and are going to pursue their studies at their respective colleges—J. B. Bagley to Wake Forest, E. M. Land, Gus Moore and Skinner Alston to Chapel Hill, and D. W. Newsum and Sie Thorne to Trinity.

Crops in our section are good, as they have not suffered from drought as have other parts of the county.

Our town will soon have two other fine residences, which are already in construction.

"My boy came home from school one day with his hand badly lacerated and bleeding, and suffering great pain," says Mr. E. J. Schall, with Meyer Bros' Drug Co., St. Louis, Mo. "I dressed the wound, and applied Chamberlain's Pain Balm freely. All pain ceased and in a remarkably short time it healed without leaving a scar. For wounds, sprains, swellings and rheumatism, I know of no medicine or prescription equal to it. I consider it a household necessity." The 25 and 50 cent sizes for sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Scotland Neck, N. C.

The President of Uruguay was assassinated a few days ago by a youth named Arredondo. The youth was promptly arrested.

### IT SAVES THE CROUPY CHILDREN.

SEAVIEW, Va.—We have a splendid sale on Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and our customers coming from far and near, speak of it in the highest terms. Many have said that their children would have died of croup if Chamberlain's Cough Remedy had not been given.—KELLAM & OURREN. The 25 and 50 cent sizes for sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Scotland Neck, N. C.

**Pianos, Organs, Musical Instruments.**  
Prices Low and Goods the Best.  
Write for prices before purchasing.  
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Rocky Mount, N. C.  
(Mention The Commonwealth.) 3 11 tf

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INCORPORATED 1812.  
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**FULL CORPS OF TEACHERS.**  
Next Session begins August 30.

Careful instruction in every department. Music department under a skillful musician from New England Conservatory of Music. Elocution and Physical Culture under a student from New England Conservatory College of Oratory and Emerson School of Oratory, Boston. Terms very moderate.

For further particulars address the principal,  
MISS LENA H. SMITH,  
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**WINE & SPIRITS.**  
We have the finest selection of Wines & Spirits of all kinds. Also a full stock of Cigars and Tobacco. Call on us for a list of our goods. We are located at the corner of Main and Second Streets, New York City.

When you buy  
**Sarsaparilla**  
Ask for the best and you'll  
**Get Ayer's.**  
Ask for Ayer's and you'll get  
**The Best.**

For sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Scotland Neck, N. C.

### Remember This!

For the next thirty days, I will sell my entire stock of

**Trimmed and Untrimmed**  
Hats at a Sacrifice.  
Shapes usually sold for 50c., 75c., and \$1.00, now going at 25c., 40c., and 50 cts.

Job Lot of Ribbons at cost and below. This lot includes

**Persian and Dresden**  
effects, also Satins, Satin edges, etc., More Notions than ever before.

MRS. W. H. WHITE.

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**YOUNG LADIES.**

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A. P. PIFER, Principal,  
6 24 to 9 1. NORFOLK, VA.

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OXFORD, N. C.

The next Session Opens Sept. 1, 1897.

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3 10 4m

## NOTICE!

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, HALIFAX COUNTY, Superior Court, May Term, 1897. R. L. Joyner, M. Hoffman and G. Hoffman, partners trading as M. Hoffman & Bro.

against  
W. T. Joyner and wife Fanny, and Noah Biggs and R. M. Johnson, partners trading as Biggs & Johnson, and Henrietta Kuntz.  
Under and by virtue of the decree rendered in the above entitled action at the May term of said Superior court, I will, on the 11th day of September, 1897, in the town of Scotland Neck, N. C., sell for cash to the highest bidder, tract of land on which the said W. T. Joyner now resides, known as the home tract of the said W. T. Joyner, adjoining the lands of R. L. Joyner, W. T. Vaughan and others, containing 300 acres, more or less.

8 12 5t

CLAUDE KIRKIN, Commissioner.

## PEACE

**INSTITUTE** for Young Ladies, Raleigh, N. C.  
Excellent buildings and beautiful grounds in a Healthful location with splendid climate. Stands at the very front in Female Education. Thorough in its Courses. High in its Standard. Unsurpassed in its high moral tone and in its intellectual and social influences. Twenty-one officers and teachers. Very reasonable prices. Send for catalogue.

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The best business course offered in the state. Send for album and catalogue. Address JNO. C. KILGORE, Durham, N. C.

7 15 2m.

## HOW TO FIND OUT.

Fill a bottle or common glass with urine and let it stand twenty-four hours; a sediment or settling indicates an unhealthy condition of the kidneys. When urine stains linen it is positive evidence of kidney trouble. Too frequent desire to urinate or pain in the back, is also convincing proof that the kidneys and bladder are out of order.

## WHAT TO DO.

There is comfort in the knowledge often expressed, that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy, fulfills every wish in relieving pain in the back, kidneys, liver, bladder and every part of the urinary passages. It corrects inability to hold urine and scalding pain in passing it, or bad effects following use of liquor, wine or beer, and overcomes that unpleasant necessity of being compelled to get up many times during the night to urinate. The mild and extraordinary effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. If you need a medicine you should have the best. Sold by druggists (specify the name) and one dollar. You may have a sample bottle and pamphlet both sent free by mail. Mention THE COMMONWEALTH and send your address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

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